



Biomes of the World

Concept

The terrestrial components of the Earth can be broken down into distinctive groupings called biomes.

Objective

Students will be able to explain the features of a biome and the relationship of each biome to another, plus determine the biome of their local area.

Method

Have students work in groups to read through their handout and answer the questions on their investigation worksheet.

Materials

–Student Handout
–Student Investigation Worksheet

Duration

Up to one class session

Procedure

1. Ask the students to read the *Biomes of the World* handout.
2. Discuss the various characteristics of a biome.
3. Ask students to examine the different biomes on the *1–Student Investigation Worksheet* and determine which biome best describes the one found in Southern California. Using the worksheet, have students write their answer and explain their choice.
4. Have students present their choices.
5. Discuss with the students how the characteristics of a Mediterranean biome fit the example in Southern California. Discuss why, in the city, the most noticeable characteristics are climate and location. Discuss why, in the city, it is harder to determine the biome by plants, soil, and animals only.

Key Words

Adaptation

Biota

Geology

Organic

Biome

Coniferous

Latitude

Terrestrial

Biosphere

Deciduous

Nocturnal